

MISSISSIPPI FAMILY PLANNING DEMONSTRATION

FACT SHEET

Name of Family Planning Section 1115 Demonstration: The Mississippi Family Planning Medicaid Expansion Project

Date Proposal Submitted: 10/31/2000

Date Proposal Approved: 1/31/2003

Date of Implementation: 7/1/2002

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The primary objective of the demonstration is to reduce State and Federal maternity care expenditures by reducing the number of births resulting from unintended pregnancies. Subsequent to the initial design of the proposal, provisions to include access to primary care services have also been included.

Mississippi ranks 50th when compared to other states in both per capita and median family income. Among families headed by married couples, the poverty rate is 17.1 percent; among those headed by a male, 42.5 percent; and among those headed by a female, 69.7 percent. Mississippi's 1998 fertility rate was 68.2 per 1,000 female population between the ages of 15-44 (Mississippi Vital Statistics). The pregnancy rate for adolescents ages 15-19 in 1998 was 83.7 per 1,000 adolescents, with births to teenage mothers in 1998 at 20 percent of total births. In fiscal year 1998, 35,251 of the births in the State were to mothers covered by the Medicaid program.

The current Medicaid program not only pays for prenatal and delivery costs, but also covers the first year of medical care costs for infants. The average annual Medicaid family planning expenditure per recipient was \$242.55 in 1999, while newborn and first year infant care cost the Medicaid program an average of \$1,888 per birth. The average expenditure for the mother's care per delivery was \$3,091 bringing the total average expense of a Medicaid paid birth to \$4,979 in 1999.

Mississippi anticipates that this project will serve approximately 70,000 recipients annually when fully operational.

ELIGIBILITY

A comprehensive set of family planning and related services will be made available to women of childbearing age with incomes at or below 185 percent FPL. Current Medicaid regulation provides coverage to pregnant women and infants for (less than 1 year) at or below 185 percent of FPL. These women are currently eligible for a period of

60 days postpartum. Mississippi estimates that more than one half of the women eligible for Medicaid in 1999 due to pregnancy (22,116) lost their Medicaid coverage after 60 days postpartum.

OBJECTIVES OF THE DEMONSTRATION

- Reduce the rate of unintended pregnancies among Mississippi women in general and among women who are eligible for Medicaid paid deliveries.
- Improve access to high quality family planning services for women in general and among women who are eligible for Medicaid paid deliveries.
- Decrease Medicaid costs as a result of unintended pregnancies.
- Reduce the teen pregnancy rate.
- Reduce the number of second births among teens.
- Utilize care coordination services to assist women with choosing a family planning method and as a means for consistently using the method.
- Reduce the proportion of births spaced less than two years apart in the general population among women who are eligible for Medicaid paid deliveries.
- Reduce the number of babies born with low birth weight through outreach and education to women.
- Increase the number of Mississippi women and teens receiving publicly funded (Medicaid, title X, and title XX programs) family planning services.

FAMILY PLANNING SERVICES

Family planning services will include medical exams, counseling services, patient education, laboratory, FDA approved contraceptives, contraceptive injectables, contraceptive implants, and diaphragms. Enhanced family planning services will be provided to clients who require additional education, counseling, follow-up or outreach in order to continue to use family planning services or to access family planning services.

PRIMARY CARE REFERRAL SYSTEM

Mississippi has demonstrated that there will be adequate referrals and access to comprehensive primary care health services for beneficiaries in the family planning demonstration, utilizing an extensive safety net of health care providers. The State has received a letter of support from the Mississippi Primary Health Care Association which includes 21 community health centers and one FQHC look-a-like. These centers operate 75 satellite clinics across the State.

Contact- Julie Jones (410) 786-3039 – E-Mail – jjones5@cms.hhs.gov Updated 3/24/03